

Series I
Correspondence,
1932-1973

Box 5, Folder 17

February 7, 1946 -
August 5, 1946

ARMY AND NAVY CLUB
OF MANILA

February 7, 1946.

Commodore Richard W. Bates
ComPhilSea Frontier

Dear Commodore Bates:

I am pleased to advise you that
the Board of Directors elected you to regular
membership in the Army and Navy Club on
February 6, 1946.

Trusting you will find the Club
of pleasure and service, I am

Yours sincerely,

Harry Adamson
HARRY ADAMSON
Col. Ord.
Secretary

f³

Incl.

1100

U·S·NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

4305

February 27, 1946

Dear Commodore,

We are in the process of mailing membership cards to the contributing members of Alumni House. It has been brought to my attention that your name is not on this list.

Being fearful you did not receive our Brochure, due to the uncertainties of mail shipments, we are enclosing herewith a Dedication booklet so you may see thus far what has been done.

Alumni House was dedicated on the last day of the 100th Anniversary Week of the founding of the Naval Academy and about 1500 Alumni and friends attended. They were very enthusiastic upon seeing what had been accomplished.

To date, 4069 Alumni have contributed \$55,067.50, or an average of \$13.53.

It will give me great pleasure to welcome you to Alumni House the next time you are in Annapolis.

Sincerely,



Harry R. England
Secretary

HRE:e

Commodore Richard W. Bates
% Cinc Pac.
% Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

1101

IN REPLY ADDRESS NOT THE SIGNER
OF THIS LETTER, BUT

HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE
NAVY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



REFER TO NO.

ROG/JP

HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

27 February 1946

Commodore R. W. Bates, U.S.N.,
Commander Philippine Sea Frontier,
c/o Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, California.

Dear Rafe:

I took over yesterday from Admiral Bryan the job in the Hydrographic Office. I have been with Bryan for about ten days but still feel a little like "Alice in Wonderland". However, I hope to get most of the details squared away in due time.

I had a very pleasant leave in Richmond. My trip back was reasonably comfortable, and I saw Gladys and Taylor in San Diego when passing through. My short inquiries in the Navy Department indicates that all is well in Manila.

A young employee, Mr. Frank Watson of Larus and Company, Richmond, Virginia, has just arrived in Manila. I know Lewis Larus very well and he is writing to Watson to call on you, Admiral Kauffman, and Admiral Hardison socially. I would appreciate it very much if you would pass the word on to Kauffman and Hardison. His call is on a social basis only, and I am sure you all ("all" not used in a Southern sense), will be glad to meet him.

Rosalie and I are now back in the Westchester and gradually getting settled.

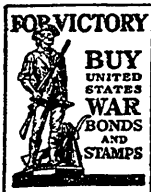
Drop me a line when you can, and if there is anything I can do for you, please let me know.

With best wishes,

Your old friend,

Chick

R. O. GLOVER.



1102

Op-04-MC

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

28 February 1946

My dear Bates:

I received your letter of the sixteenth of February enclosing your basic data for the Naval Affairs Committee pamphlet. I note also that it is corrected up to the thirty-first of January.

Cotter and I are a special board with no other duties than to handle the Surplus Property problems. This information you furnished us is exactly what we need and, furthermore, it enables us to present the same figures to Congress as Congressional Committees get on the trips. This is particularly valuable as you can see.

I had just written Admiral Kauffman relative to the return of surplus property when I received your letter.

One thing at least that Cotter and I succeeded in getting done was the establishment of a national policy as to what was to come back. We hammered and hammered at the necessity for it and told them what the situation was - every day's delay made our task and that of the Area Commanders just that much more difficult. I would have liked to have had the decision at least a month earlier, but we couldn't get it. I think our despatch covered the ground pretty well.

Thanks again, and with kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,



W. S. Farber,
Vice Admiral, U.S.Navy.

Commodore R. W. Bates, U.S.Navy,
Philippine Sea Frontier,
Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, California.

1103

Refer to No. 9027

NAVY DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



4 MAR 1946

From: The Chief of Naval Personnel.
• To: Commodore Richard W. Bates, U. S. Navy,
Chief of Staff,
Commander Phillipine Sea Frontier,
Fleet Post Office,
San Francisco, California.
Subject: Eligibility for consideration for retirement under
Act of Congress approved 21 February 1946.

1. There is enclosed for your information a synopsis of the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 21 February 1946.
2. In accordance with the provisions of Section 2(a) of that Act, a board of officers will be convened at the Bureau of Naval Personnel, Arlington Annex, Washington, D. C., on 20 March 1946, or as soon thereafter as practicable, to consider and recommend for retirement officers of the U. S. Navy serving in the ranks of rear admiral or commodore under either permanent or temporary appointment. Your name and complete record, including your medical record, together with the names and similar records of all other officers in the described category, will be submitted to that board.
3. In making its recommendations the Board will be instructed to take into consideration not only the relative professional qualifications of the officers concerned with particular reference to their demonstrated or apparent potential ability to exercise higher command, but also their ages and their physical fitness for all duties ashore and at sea.
4. You are informed that you may, if you so desire, forward at any time direct to the Chief of Naval Personnel for delivery to the President of the board considering your case, so as to be received not later than ten days after the convening of the board, a written communication inviting attention to any matter of record in the Navy Department or to any other official matter concerning yourself which you deem to be important in consideration of your case. Such communication, however, shall not contain any reflection upon the character, conduct, or motives of, or criticism of any officer. The communication will be forwarded via air mail.

John D. Temple

Encl:
(A) Synopsis of provisions of Act of
Congress approved 21 February 1946

1104

SECTIONAL ANALYSIS OF AN ACT APPROVED FEBRUARY 21, 1946
(S. 1405) TO AUTHORIZE THE PRESIDENT TO RETIRE CERTAIN OFFICERS
OF THE NAVY, MARINE CORPS AND COAST GUARD.

Under the provisions of this Act a method is provided for the reviewal of the records of officers leading to recommendations for the retirement of those whose records indicate their services cannot be further utilized effectively. During the war the laws governing separation from the service by retirement, except in case of physical incapacity, generally were suspended either by the Congress or administrative action. Virtually all officers of the Naval Establishment whose service could be utilized in any capacity were employed during the combat stages of the present war. The stepped up tempo of naval and military life and the vigorous physical demands of modern warfare require that officers should reach command rank earlier in their careers.

Section 1 authorizes the Secretary of the Navy to appoint boards of officers to consider and recommend for retirement (1) Regular Navy officers, line and staff serving in the ranks of rear admiral and commodore; and (2) Regular Marine Corps officers serving in the ranks of major general and brigadier general.

Section 2 provides that:

(a) Boards established to consider rear admirals and commodores shall consist of not less than five Regular Navy officers in ranks above that of rear admiral except that staff corps rear admirals may be appointed to the board for consideration and recommendation of staff corps officers for retirement.

(b) Boards established to consider major generals of the Marine Corps shall consist of three Regular line officers of the Marine Corps serving in ranks above that of major general. If such officers are not available the deficiency shall be supplied by Regular line officers of the Navy above the rank of rear admiral.

(c) Boards established to consider brigadier generals of the Marine Corps shall consist of five Regular line officers of the Marine Corps serving in ranks above that of brigadier general. If such officers are not available the deficiency shall be supplied by Regular line officers of the Navy in or above the rank of rear admiral.

Section 3 authorizes the Secretary of the Navy to convene boards to consider and recommend for retirement Regular Navy and Marine Corps officers serving in the ranks of captain and below (Navy) and colonel and below (Marine Corps). The categories or groups of officers to be considered shall be speci-

fied in the precepts convening such boards. Members of such boards shall be senior in permanent rank to the permanent rank of any officer under consideration.

Section 4 provides that the recommendations of the boards convened pursuant to the foregoing sections shall be submitted by the Secretary of the Navy with his recommendations to the President for approval or disapproval in whole or in part.

Section 5 provides that each officer recommended for retirement, on approval of the President, shall be placed on the retired list on the 1st day of such month as may be designated by the Secretary of the Navy but in no case later than the 1st day of the seventh month after date of approval by the President.

Section 6 provides that any officer of the Regular Navy or Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, or the Reserve components thereof, who has completed twenty or more years of active service including active duty for training, at least 10 years of which are active commissioned service, may upon his own application be placed upon the retired list on the first day of such month as the President may designate.

Section 7(a) provides that officers retired pursuant to the foregoing sections of this Act shall be placed on the retired list with the highest rank, permanent or temporary, held while on active duty, provided performance of duty in such rank has been satisfactory, with retired pay based upon the rate of 2-1/2 per centum of the active duty pay with longevity credit of the rank in which retired, multiplied by the number of years of service for which entitled to credit in computation of pay while on active duty, not to exceed a total of 75 per centum of the active duty pay. A fractional year of six or more months shall be counted as a full year in the computation of the number of years service multiplied by 2-1/2 per centum. Officers whose computation of pay on the active list is not based upon years of service shall receive 75 per centum of active duty pay. If an officer's service in the highest rank has not been satisfactory he shall be retired in the next lower rank, but not below his permanent rank, with retired pay based on such lower rank.

(b) If an officer is entitled under any other provision of law to higher rank or higher retired pay than would accrue from this section nothing in this section shall deprive him of such benefits.

(c) Except for other provisions of law granting benefits of higher rank or higher retired pay, the highest rank in which such officer served on or prior to June 30, 1946, (or, if a prisoner of war at any time during World War II, the highest rank to which such officer was temporarily

appointed pursuant to the provisions of the act approved July 24, 1941) shall govern retirement for pay purposes.

Section 8: (a) This subsection amends section 10 of the Temporary Appointment and Promotion Act of July 24, 1941. As originally enacted, that section allowed officers upon retirement or upon return to an inactive status on the retired list to be advanced to the highest rank in which they served satisfactorily on active duty, but with retired pay based only upon the rank in which retired. It had been construed as not permitting reserve officers, except those on the retired list, to retain while in an inactive status their highest active-duty temporary rank.

Subsection 8 (a) of this act provides that upon termination of their temporary status, active list personnel of the regular Navy and Marine Corps shall assume their permanent rank, and that personnel of the retired list and of the respective reserve components (including Fleet Reserve and Fleet Marine Corps Reserve) shall have, when returned to inactive status, the highest grade and rank in which, as determined by the Secretary of the Navy, they served satisfactorily under a temporary appointment, unless entitled to higher rank under other provisions of law.

Personnel of the retired list returned to inactive status with a higher rank (as a result of temporary promotion while on active duty and satisfactory service thereunder) shall receive retired pay based upon such higher rank.

Active personnel of the Regular Navy (and Marine Corps) and personnel of the Fleet Reserve and Fleet Marine Corps Reserve temporarily promoted while on active duty shall, when subsequently retired, if not otherwise entitled to the same or higher grade and rank or retired pay, be advanced to the highest grade and rank in which the Secretary of the Navy determined they served satisfactorily under temporary appointments and shall receive retired pay computed at the rate prescribed by law and applicable to each individual case but based on such higher rank.

Personnel in classes above set forth who were retired or released from active duty prior to approval of this act shall be entitled to the benefits of this section from the date of retirement or release to inactive duty.

Personnel accorded higher rank hereunder and subsequently assigned to active duty shall be recalled to active duty in the grades, ranks or ratings with which they were retired or returned to inactive status, unless they are entitled under other provisions of law to higher grades, ranks or ratings.

The highest rank in which an officer served on or prior to June 30, 1946, or if a prisoner of war during World War II the highest rank to which temporarily appointed under this act, is the highest rank for retirement pay purposes under this section unless he is entitled to higher rank under other provisions of law or unless at time of retirement his permanent grade or rank is higher.

(b) Section 7 of the Act of June 30, 1942 provided that temporary appointments under authority of the Act of July 24, 1941, may continue in effect during such period as the President shall determine, but not later than six months after June 30 of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the war or national emergency shall terminate. Section 8 (b) of this act emphasizes that these provisions of law are not altered or amended.

Section 9: This section provides that officers of the Regular Navy or Marine Corps serving in a rank below that of fleet admiral shall be, upon reaching the age of sixty-two years, placed upon the retired list by the President with the highest rank held while on active duty with retired pay computed at the rate of 2-1/2 per centum of the active-duty pay with longevity credit of the rank with which retired, multiplied by the number of years of service for which entitled to credit in the computation of pay while on active duty, not to exceed a total of 75 per centum of the active-duty pay. A fractional year of 6 or more months shall be considered a full year in computing the number of years of service by which the rate of 2-1/2 per centum is multiplied. Officer whose computation of pay on the active list is not based upon years of service shall receive 75 per centum of active-duty pay. In the discretion of the President, the retirement of any such officer may be deferred not later than the date he becomes sixty-four years of age, but not more than ten such deferred officers may be on the active list at any one time. No officer of the Navy or Marine Corps shall be placed upon the retired list under this section until the first day of the sixth month following the date of approval of this act or until he reaches retirement age pursuant to existing law prior to the date of approval of this act, whichever is earlier.

Section 10: This section makes the provisions applicable to the Coast Guard.

Section 11: The following subsections of this section repeal existing provisions of law inconsistent with the provisions of this act. (a) This subsection repeals section 13 and subsection (e) of section 15 of the act of June 23, 1938. Said section 13 provides that if, in peacetime, the number of vacancies in the grade of rear admiral has been less than eight for any fiscal year, the Secretary of the Navy shall convene a board to retire a sufficient number of rear admirals to create eight vacancies. Subsection (e) of section 15 of said act of June 23, 1938, provides a similar procedure whereby at least two vacancies shall be created in the grade of general officer of the line in the Marine Corps.

(b) This subsection repeals section 1444 of the Revised Statutes as amended by the act of August 29, 1916 which provides that the retirement age of all officers of the Navy shall be 64 years. Section 2 of the act of January 28, 1929, which provides that when any officer of the Navy, including Dental Corps, and Marine Corps, below the rank of vice admiral attains the age of 64 years, he shall be retired by the President from active service is also repealed by this subsection. Section 6 of the Act of June 30, 1942, which authorized retirement in temporary rank held by officers below rank of vice admiral and lieutenant general who retired on reaching the age of 64 years, is likewise repealed.

(c) Section 12 (e) of the Act of June 23, 1938, which provides that a naval officer of the line upon completing 20 years of commissioned service, upon application and within the discretion of the President, may be released to inactive duty and placed upon the retired list, is repealed.

Section 12: Section 3 of this act is terminated on June 30 of the fiscal year following the year in which the present war is declared ended either by Presidential proclamation or by resolution of Congress.

Charles Turner Joy
Rear Admiral, U.S.N.

Hong Kong BCC.
10 Mar 46

Dear Rafe;

It was typically generous of you
to have left me the whiskey. Many
thanks indeed, old bean. Sorry
you aren't here to help me consume
it.

I went over to the Hotel this
morning just as my car returned
from taking you to the air field.
Was indeed sorry to have missed
saying good bye to you and Gavin.
But anyway, no doubt I'll be seeing
you again shortly for it is my
present intention to return to the

1110

U.S. via Manila when Kitts
relieves me.

The enclosed despatch was
received this am shortly after
you departed. Too bad it did
not arrive in time to permit you
a choice as to whether to continue
with your original plans or to
return to Manila.

It was great seeing you again
and knowing Gavin. The next time
you come to H.K. give us more
advanced warning so that we can
plan better whoopee for you.

Best regards to Reggie.

Sincerely,
Thurmer.

UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION

U. S. NAVAL REPRESENTATIVE ON THE MILITARY STAFF COMMITTEE

17 March 1946

Commodore R. W. Bates, USN
Commander, Motor Torpedo Boat Squadrons, Pacific Fleet
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

Dear Rafe:

Thank you very much indeed for your very kind and cordial letter of 11 December, concerning my assignment as Chairman of the General Board. The letter just reached me yesterday, having chased me to London and back, so that is the reason that I have not answered it previously.

As you may know, I was attached to the General Board for only a very short period of time and have now been assigned duty (which I hope will be permanent) as U. S. Naval Representative on the Military Staff Committee of the United Nations Organization. Probably there will be a lot of headaches in this job, but I think it will be interesting, and possibly may be constructive.

Believe me when I say that I greatly appreciate receiving a letter like yours, particularly as it comes from someone with whom I have been closely associated during the war.

After coming back from London the latter part of February, I went to the West Coast and packed up my family to come back East for the next meeting of the Military Staff Committee on March 25. Unfortunately, until my furniture arrives at some uncertain future date, Harriet and I will have to live in a hotel some place around New York--which is not a very nice prospect for the coming Summer. However, things might have been worse.

Owing to the fact of being away, I have been unable to keep track of the changes in duty assignments, and therefore do not know whether or not you are still with the fast little boats. However, I trust that this letter will be forwarded to you.

With kindest regards and good wishes.

Very sincerely,

Kelly Turner

KELLY TURNER

1112

April 3, 1946

Honorable James V. Forrestal
Secretary of the Navy
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I have just completed a 25,000 mile tour of the Pacific, under Navy auspices, studying the job of disposing of surplus property, and the problems connected therewith.

I want to tell you that everywhere - without a single exception - I received the finest treatment one might imagine, excellent cooperation and generous hospitality. I was greatly impressed by the caliber of officers and men, the energy with which they are devoting themselves to their jobs.

It did seem to me that demobilization has been carried almost to the point of tragedy, and that there is a vital need for a vast improvement in the airmail system to the forward areas. Men out there reported that their airmail letters were delayed as much as 45 days. An improvement in the mail system, plus a method - if one can be devised - of rotating the men in a shorter period will do a great deal to improve morale which, considering everything, is yet surprisingly good. Everyone is talking of getting their families out there, or coming home. The former is no solution, for it will only complicate and perhaps deeply disturb relationships between the personnel on the forward bases. In short, everyone who hasn't a wife out there will be looking toward somebody's wife who is there. I doubt that sending out the families is the right solution.

The above is offered only as an idea, based upon what I saw and heard there.

Without attempting to name the entire list, I should like to say that many Navy officers impressed me greatly. These included Rear Admiral A. J. Wellings, Honolulu; Captain F. B. Risser, Honolulu, who accompanied us to Okinawa; Vice-Admiral Oscar Badger, Honolulu; Vice-Admiral McCormack, Honolulu; Vice-Admiral J. L. Kauffman, Manila, who was exceptionally helpful in that area; Vice-Admiral Sherman, Tokyo; Commodore Richard Bates, Manila; Lieutenant Charles Amerling, Jr., Honolulu; Rear Admiral Elliott Buckmaster, Okinawa. In addition, Lieutenant Commander Frank A. Manson, of Washington, D. C., who accompanied us on the entire trip was not only extremely helpful and considerate; his conduct under even the most trying conditions could well have served as a model for almost anyone.

1113

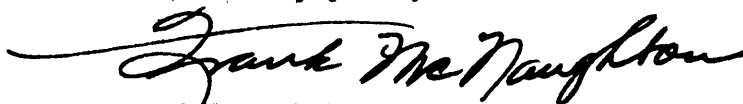
Honorable James V. Forrestal

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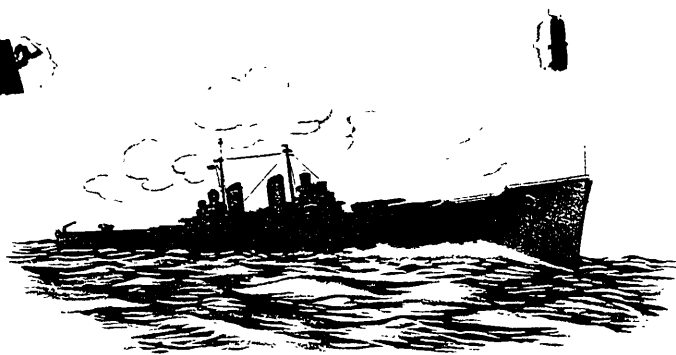
April 3, 1946

Bringing all the problems and handicaps into focus, it seems to me that the Navy is singularly fortunate in its personnel, and that it is doing a good job on all of its surplus property, its bases, and its rollup of abandoned bases.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Frank McNaughton".

FRANK McNAUGHTON
Correspondent
TIME Magazine



U. S. S. LOS ANGELES

8 April [1946]

Dear Rafe,

I think you may remember the attractive British Red Cross Girl I was with at one of the cocktail parties when you were here. She is anxious to get some cosmetics which are not available in Hong Kong. I am told they were available at a place called The Manila Leave Center Post Exchange.

Here is the list of items

- 3 Bottles Lenthier's "Jweed" - either perfume, or Cologne.
- 1 Bottle Revelon nail Varnish (pink if possible - not too red)
- 2 Bottles Nail Varnish Remover

1 Bottle Kennerly "Shanghai" perfume
1 Bottle Schiaparelli "Shocking" perfume

Also can you get any size 9
hose (either nylon, silk or rayon)
at the same place. If so, I
would like for you to
get 2 or 3 pairs.

If you are successful in
any of this, I would appreciate
it if you would send it to
me on the weekly carrier
plane to Hong Kong and I will
reimburse you for
whatever the bill comes to.

Hope this is not too much
to ask of you, but you know
accommodating friends are
apt to be imposed on.

Regards

Jimmie

June 13, 1946

Commodore R. W. Bates, USN
927 Paru Street
Alameda, California

Dear Commodore,

Thank you for your congratulations on the Distinguished Service Medal. This award was an agreeable surprise. I was sorry to learn of your ailment, and am glad that it is not too serious.

There were two or three issues of the ONI Review giving Jap accounts of Surigao. One of them indicated a PT torpedo hit on the ABEKUMA which slowed her down enough to keep her out of action that night and resulted in her being caught and sunk by planes the next day. The lack of coordination and information among the Japs as indicated by these articles is almost unbelievable!

Having more or less wound up the work of the Liberated Prisoners of War Section, I am now in the Planning Division of BuPers. My present job is mostly in connection with the action of the Bureau on the Low Board Report regarding the fixing of lineal positions of officers, lining up a postwar promotion system, etc. Judging from the present status of the matter it will be several months before the matter is ready for Congress. It's interesting work, however.

I'm living the life of a Virginia suburbanite—working at a desk and spending my off hours cutting the lawn and tending my garden for fun and exercise. Have a mint bed, and stand ready to prove to you that I can make a good mint julep! I hope the medicos stamp you okay soon, and that you come by to take me up on that.

Sincerely yours,

S. S. Bowling
S. S. BOWLING
CAPTAIN, USN
2426 N. Powhatan St.
Arlington, Virginia

1117

COMMANDANT ELEVENTH NAVAL DISTRICT
AND
NAVAL OPERATING BASE
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

14 June 1946

Commodore R. W. Bates, USN
727 Paru Street
Alameda, California

Dear Ray:

Your letter of 2 June reached me upon my arrival home from temporary duty with a special board of retirement in Washington. I had heard that you were being sent home and was much worried relative to your physical condition, having heard all manner of stories, up to and including the one that you had had a heart attack. Your letter was a welcome relief and I am glad that your condition is no more serious than you indicated.

I have had in mind answering your two nice letters for a good many months but with taking over a new job and commuting between San Diego and Washington I have had very little time for my personal affairs. While in Washington early in April I heard from John McCrea that you were ill and were coming home and, not knowing your exact whereabouts, could not write.

I received your dispatch relative to Surigao and know how you felt because I took a good look at the locale when I passed through there on the end of January, 1945.

I am much distressed at the action taken with regard to Reggie Kauffman. There is a good deal which I could tell you that goes on in Washington but I do not desire to commit it to writing. Anyway, it is a case of "dog eat dog," if you know what I mean.

The "Night Order Book" arrived in good shape. Thank you very much.

1118

COMMANDANT ELEVENTH NAVAL DISTRICT
AND
NAVAL OPERATING BASE
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Commodore R. W. Bates

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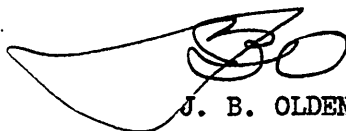
14 June 1946

Yes, I have read the articles on the Battle of Surigao appearing in the ONI Review and was much surprised that the Japs did not consider that there was sufficient room to maneuver a fleet in Leyte Gulf, also that they expected to suck me out of the Gulf and permit the Southern Force to attack the transports. There must be something wrong with their reasoning processes if they planned their action on that premise.

You were correct in your assumption that Betty is quite happy and enjoying San Diego. She was with me in Washington and could hardly wait to get home.

My very best to your Father and Mother and brothers.

Sincerely,



J. B. OLDENDORF

1119

19 June 1946

Commodore Richard W. Bates, USN
U. S. Naval Hospital
Oakland 14, California

My dear Bates:

I have recently received a directive from the Chief of Naval Operations which requires the Naval War College to study and evaluate the battles of World War II in which the Naval Service participated. The title, method of presentation and form will be left to the War College, which will issue these evaluations under the authority of the President of the Naval War College, without further reference to the Chief of Naval Operations.

This is a new and important responsibility for the War College. It is my belief that success in this undertaking will depend upon obtaining especially selected officers, and particularly upon the officer who heads up the group. It is my intention to set up a Research Department of initially four officers for this work.

I have recently, through a visit to Washington by Commodore Carroll (now attached to the War College), inquired into your availability to take charge of this work. BuPers has informed me that you could be assigned to this duty provided your physical condition will permit, and that if assigned you would be ordered on a temporary duty basis to allow you to retain your rank. I had heard with regret that you met difficulty with this year's physical examination, but I hope that the billet which I outlined above would be just the thing for you.

Will you inform me, at the earliest time, whether the duty would appeal, and, if so, the possibility of your early availability?

Sincerely yours,

5 July 1946

RAYMOND A. SPRUANCE

Dear Rafe -

Failing to receive a reply from you, it is assumed the original letter miscarried. We are in need of an early answer: a telegram indicating your attitude would be fine - With best regards 'Hobe'

1120



U.S.S. LOS ANGELES

1946

Saturday 22 June

Dear Zeph, I received your letter of 4 June a few days ago, and I imagine by now you are in San Francisco having a swell time. As for me, I am in Hong Kong. I came up here for a look-see around the 7th then went south to Shanghai, but as I was about to proceed up the Whangpoo from Woosung I received sudden orders to return without delay to Hong Kong on account of a Communist scare up here. So I have been here ever since. There has been some rifle fire between sampans and the beach but nothing very serious. Meantime the Helena has arrived and Adm. Kirtz has shifted to her, since she is his regular flagship. So I am now

without a flag. I find it rather lovely, but in some respects rather welcome. At any rate, I am turning Jintao over to the Helena and I will proceed with the L.A. to Shanghai on Monday. I expect to be there a couple of months — in fact I will be so disintegrated by the time this demobilization is completed that I will not be able to move except in case of the most urgent necessity and then only on very reduced power and for a limited period.

You spoke of my selection prospects. I find it difficult to believe that I will be selected. I do know a lot of people but I have never made it a policy to ingratiate myself to any of them. In fact I suspect my attitude has been rather too much in the opposite direction.

I can say though with complete honesty



U.S.S. LOS ANGELES

that I don't care. In fact I rather think I would be fortunate not to be selected for if I am selected I will certainly remain in, whereas I believe there are features of civilian life which are worth experiencing before one is too old to ^{cease} enjoying life.

I am quite sure that you are far more competent than I, and than many of the present ~~RAEMs~~ ^{RAEMs}.

Please don't worry any further about the toilet articles I asked you to get for me. I doubt if I will ever see the girls in Hongkong again anyway. I hope you didn't go to too much trouble.

Hongkong is relatively quiet. The weather is cool and lovely. It is much

more pleasant and cleaner than
Shanghai. Jim Barry I have to go
back to that thinking place.

You should see my cabin. I'm some
horticulturist - I have two Rose
bushes, one Geranium, and a huge
Gardenia all in large pots. The
Gardenia must have 50 blossoms out
and literally perfumes the whole
place.

Give my regards to any of
our old friends and remember
I have always the warmest
regard for you and will look
forward to seeing you -

Sincerely
Jimmy

HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES WESTERN PACIFIC
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL WDS:lel

APO 707

24 June 1946

Commodore Richard W. Bates,
727 Paru Street,
Alameda, California

Dear Dick:

Many thanks for your letter of 26 May which I received on my return from Baguio day before yesterday; I appreciate the very kind thoughts which you expressed, and wish to reciprocate them heartily.

I know of no period of service during my career which was more pleasant and, I believe, more conducive of results produced in a cooperative, friendly spirit, than that service which I had here with you and Admiral Kauffman. I will always look back on it with a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction, and with many happy recollections of lasting friendship and comradeship.

I hope that you have now had your physical check-up, and that the results have been to pronounce you hale and hearty. The rest returning home was probably all you needed, and I hope that you will be going strong for many years to come, and that our paths may meet many times in the future.

I had a slight set-back the other day when my gall bladder became infected for some unknown reason. I was hospitalized for eleven days, and experienced considerable pain during the first three; however, I am back to duty now, and am feeling very fit, except that I am a little weak yet, having lost about fifteen pounds during my sojourn in the hospital. I took a trip to Baguio to spend three days recuperating, but found that the old place had changed considerably from the times we used to spend there. The rains have set in, and it rained continuously for three days, and was very cold, damp and disagreeable. I finally decided to give it up as a bad job, and came back to the lowlands where I hope to see the sun shine at least once a day.

I have not yet heard from Admiral Kauffman, but I imagine that he is spending a little leave before returning to duty in Philadelphia.

Admiral Good has taken over in good fashion and we enjoy very fine relations with him and his command. Mrs. Good and several Navy families have arrived, which adds a little touch of home life to the activities here. I think some of our Army families will be arriving in the middle of July, but it does not appear to me that my family's turn will come before September or October.

I am leaving on July 5th for a two-weeks tour of temporary duty in the United States. I will stop in San Francisco only to take on gas, as I want to spend a day or two with my mother in San Diego. Perhaps on my way back I will be able to see you if you are still on the West Coast.

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Commodore R. W. Bates, 24 June 46 -2-

All of us here miss you, and all send their very best wishes and kindest regards.

Very sincerely,

W. D. Styer
W. D. STYER
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Commanding

Hola, amigo, - ¿cómo está?
W. D. Styer

1126

PHILIPPINE DETENTION AND REHABILITATION CENTER
NAVAL SECTION
NAVY 3142
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

8 July 1946

Commodore R. W. Bates, USN,
727 PARU St.,
Alameda, California.

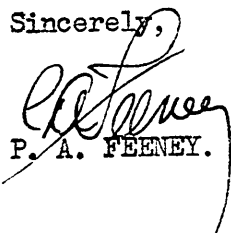
Dear Commodore Bates:

The Salad bowl & fork which you expressed a desire to have, has been promised for next Saturday, July 15, 1946. As soon as I receive it I will send it on to you. You should receive it within six weeks. I understand packages are not delivered very promptly.

My promotion to Commander came through on 13 June 1946.

There was quite a celebration here on 4 July 1946.-Independence Day. I met President Roxos and was very much impressed by him.

Sincerely,


P. A. FEENEY.

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NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
NEWPORT, R. I.

26 July 1946

AIR MAIL

Commodore R. W. Bates, USN
U.S. Naval Hospital
Mare Island, California

Dear Rafe:

Your letter of 24 July and a copy of your dispatch orders were both received 15 minutes ago.

Regarding a room, you probably won't like what has happened here, that is, the Naval Base states they have quarters available for all bachelors. This means that you either live in them or forfeit your rental allowance. We had a struggle to find places for the Class and Staff of the War College and, as in other cities, no one is very happy about the housing situation. You know that the General Line School is now here with about 660 officers. There is a new Club underway, which should be finished about the 1st of September and may improve the restaurant situation.

The present members of the Research Department are: Captain F.C. Dickey, Aviator; Captain S.D. Willingham, Submariner; and Commander D.B. Ramage. At this time four officers are all we can afford to assign to the Research Department. Of course, the remainder of the Staff is available for conferences on various aspects of your work. Since the original letter was written to you, offering you this assignment, we have received information that five of the present Staff will be retired, and up to now we have no replacements. On your way East you are authorized to request anyone that you think is qualified to assist you in this work and which Bupers will order here. Captain Morison and two officer assistants have been sent to the War College to write Morison's history of the Navy during the war. It is practically an independent assignment and there is no direct relationship between this section and the Department of Research. The history is to be his own, and I believe Captain Morison gets demobilized about the first of the year. We have put the Research Department down in the large room opposite the Archives, and at present the civilian assistants are Mr. Fitzsimmons, Mr. Wright and 4 clerks.

All in all, Newport is very fine indeed in this post-war period, and a pleasant summer with an opportunity to do good work is only interrupted by the sobs that come from Washington.

Sincerely -- and a pleasant leave to you.

Hebe

ALLAN E. SMITH

See 1819 NR

1128



THE UNITED STATES HIGH COMMISSIONER
TO THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

C/o Department of Interior, Washington 25, D. C.

August 5, 1946

Commodore Richard W. Bates,
U. S. Naval Hospital,
Mare Island, Calif.

Dear Dick:

Pardon the long delay in answering your most thoughtful note of May 30th. In the first place I did not know just where you were and in the second place, I have held the hope that you might be in Washington when I returned from the Philippines which I did some three weeks ago.

As probably you have seen from the Service Journals, I am retiring as of September 1st, and going to Honolulu as Vice President of the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association. Will be at the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco from September 4th to around the 11th or 12th. Hope that you may join us (Mrs. Rose will be with me) during that time.

With all best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Bill Rose

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